

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Alexander Melville Bell, Eliza Symonds Bell, Carrie Bell, April 5, 1871, with transcript

Copy of a letter written by Alexander Graham Bell to his parents and Carrie. 2 Bulfinch Place, Boston, Wednesday, April 5th, 1871. (I reached Boston shortly after 3 P. M.) Dear Papa, Mama and Carrie:

After a long and tedious journey I have arrived safely at my destination without even getting a glimpse at the White Mountains — unless indeed the Catskills can be called so for they were covered with snow.

I got a splendid view of the Falls however. The train which used to leave at 5:40 now waits till 6:20 so I had plenty of time. I cannot understand how any one can be “disappointed” at the sight. I spent the greater part of my time on Goat Island, where I ate my solitary dinner with great gusto. I don't generally like sandwiches but these were delicious. The scenery I passed through was very fine in some places. I think Dundas and neighbourhood beats any other part of Canada I have seen. I did not care to give \$1.50 to get into the sleeping car only to be turned out at Albany at five in the morning — so I sat up all night nod, nod, nodding, and as you may guess did not get much rest.

Miss Fisher received me as an old friend — and although they had had dinner — ordered up some for me. I saw Vanderhoff for a few moments. He has not been very well lately. Indeed they have had quite a sick house lately. Mr. and Mrs. Wallack are still invisible. I trust [??] [??] [??] [??] [??] [??].

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After making a good tuck-in — I washed — made myself decent and went over to Mr. King. He seems a very nice man. We had a long chat about Visible Speech, etc., etc.,

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and he asked me to whom I had letters of introduction, etc., and he is to go with me on Friday to introduce me to some gentlemen — Prof. Emerson among others. He informed me that there has been a Conference of teachers here; and then the subject of Visible Speech was brought before the meeting. A good deal of discussion ensued and a great deal of interest was shown in the subject. Dr. Peet referred to you having written to him from London about me — and expressed himself as anxious to see the result here. The Principal of Hartford Institution said if the result was successful he would try to get me to introduce the subject there. Tomorrow is a bad day to make calls as it is the Fast Day. Miss Fisher and all the Bulfinches except the Wallacks are out. I just scribble this to let you know how I have got on and now I shall tumble into bed as I am very tired.

With fond love, I am Pa, your affectionate son, Ma, your affectionate son, Carrie, your affectionate brother-in-law. Aleck. P. S. Of course love to Davis too. How does the toe progress? Any more turkey eggs? Any more goose's eggs! ? AGB.